



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 40

February Session, 2018

Substitute House Bill No. 5232

House of Representatives, March 26, 2018

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported through REP. HENNESSY of the 127th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR MILITARY FAMILIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The Military Department
2 shall, through its family program, compile and maintain a list of
3 attorneys who have offered and are able, as available, to provide legal
4 services, including, but not limited to, representation at judicial or
5 administrative appearances, at no cost or minimal cost to members of
6 the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103 of the general statutes,
7 veterans, as defined in subsection (a) of said section, and such
8 members' or veterans' families. The Military Department shall, in
9 consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, distribute such
10 list to members of the armed forces, veterans and such members' or
11 veterans' families through the Office of Advocacy and Assistance, as
12 described in section 27-102/ of the general statutes, local veterans'
13 advisory committees or veterans' service contact persons, as
14 applicable, as described in section 27-135 of the general statutes, the

15 contact list described in section 27-100c of the general statutes and any
16 other means the Adjutant General or Commissioner of Veterans
17 Affairs may deem appropriate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section
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VA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

This bill requires the Military Department to compile and maintain a list of attorneys and does not result in a fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5232*****AN ACT CONCERNING LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR MILITARY FAMILIES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Military Department, through its family program, to compile and maintain a list of volunteer attorneys who are able and may be available to provide free or low cost legal services to members of the armed forces, veterans, and their families. Under the bill, legal services include representation at judicial or administrative appearances.

The bill requires the Military Department, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, to distribute the list through the:

1. Office of Advocacy and Assistance;
2. local veterans' advisory committees or veterans' service contact persons, as applicable;
3. service members' and veterans' contact list maintained by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and
4. any other means deemed appropriate by the adjutant general or Veterans Affairs commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018

COMMITTEE ACTION

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/14/2018)